

STEAC MEETING REPORT (02/23/2022)

The STEAC met on February 23, 2022, with a quorum of twelve members attending (Lillian Alessa, Emily Bernhardt, Sarah Bevins, Mike Dietze, Anne Giblin, Peter Groffman, Rob Guralnick, Sparkle Malone, Jackie Matthes, Kim Novick, Steve Petruzza, Shawn Serbin,). Six NEON-Battelle staff attended (Zoe Gentes, Darcy Gora, Claire Lunch, Paula Mabee, Bonnie Meinke, Kirsten Ruiz).

The meeting was virtual, and the following topics were discussed: I. Approval of previous minutes; II. Introduction of new NEON engagement manager Dr. Bonnie Meinke; III. NEON performance metrics overview; IV. Review STEAC new member recruitment application and; V. Spring Meeting (May 17-18, virtual).

- I. **Approval of [previous minutes](#)**: Minutes approved.
- II. **Introduction of new NEON engagement manager Dr. Bonnie Meinke**: Prior to NEON Dr. Meinke was the Project Scientist for the James Webb Space Telescope. Dr. Meinke has extensive experience in helping to get large projects off the ground, communicating science objectives to the broader user community, disseminating big data/data uptake by user communities, and she is an expert in translational research.
- III. **NEON [performance metrics](#) overview**: NEON is reevaluating their performance metrics to identify how NEON contributes to the NSF's overall strategic plan. The primary goals of this plan are to provide a mechanism for NEON and NSF to track unique data downloads, find avenues for data usage, cadence of data used in publications, to understand end-user ease-of-use, and end-user perception of NEON data quality. The goal for NEON data is to expand knowledge in science, engineering, and learning.
 - The STEAC discussed ideas for wider dissemination of NEON data availability and usage. The STEAC understands that tracking all NEON data use in syntheses, analyses, and publications is a significant challenge given the issues around maintaining provenance as data gets funneled into larger and larger pooled datasets.
 - The STEAC also notes the challenge of identifying the diversity of ways NEON data is used (e.g. academic research, industry, type of research questions addressed).
 - The STEAC was excited to hear that some NEON data would be on the Google Earth Engine for broader scientific usage.
 - To facilitate outreach and network growth, the STEAC suggested the use of social media, specifically Twitter.
 - NEON might consider regularly reminding followers which hashtags to use when citing NEON data or science. This will allow NEON to highlight new NEON publications and measure the growth of their network over time. This would also allow NEON to follow their recommended Twitter hashtag to get alerts of new science and possibly include code that can automatically search for Twitter research updates using NEON data.
- IV. **Review STEAC [new member recruitment application](#)** The STEAC reviewed the new member recruitment application. The language will be altered to indicate that the listed expertise is not absolute and that anyone should apply even if they do not exactly match the listed expertise.
- V. The STEAC is planning to have a virtual spring meeting on May 17th and 18th.